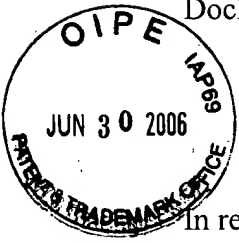


IFW 2625

Docket No.: 044376-0028

PATENT



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
	:	
TSUMORU MATSUURA, et al.	:	Confirmation Number: 8064
	:	
Application No.: 09/437,499	:	Group Art Unit: 2625
	:	
Filed: November 10, 1999	:	Examiner: WALLERSON, Mark E.
	:	
For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS	:	

**AMENDMENT and REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**  
**UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a response to the non-final Office Action dated March 31, 2006. The above-referenced patent application has been amended as set forth below.

Please cancel claim 27 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claim 24 as set forth in the "Amendments to the Claims" on pages 2 to 5 of this response.